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Chingyang (Sha-ti) Airfield Possibly in Final Surfacing Stage

US field interpretation of 28 June aerial photography of the Chingyang (Sha-ti) airfield reports evidence of a checker board pattern covering approximately 50 percent of the runway. 1/ This checkered pattern which is evidence of the use of rectangular forms in the final surfacing operation, was noted also during the final surfacing of the Swatow NE and the Nantai airstrips. While it is not known whether the surfaces at these fields are concrete or mud-bound rock and gravel, it is believed that either is suitable for sustained operational use by jet aircraft.

Based on time required for final surfacing of other coastal airfields, it is estimated that surfacing on Chingyang runway could be completed by mid-July. The completion of Chingyang airfield will provide the Chinese Communists with a jet strip in the immediate area of Quemoy. Runways in the Matsus area (Lung T'ien and Nantai) are believed already serviceable.

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